

Rare Plants of Louisiana



Rhynchospora miliacea - millet beakrush Sedge Family (Cyperaceae)

Rarity Rank: S2/G5

	1	2	3	4	5
State					
Global					
	imperiled		rare		secure

Range: Atlantic and Gulf coastal plains from VA to TX

Recognition:

- Rhizomatous perennial sedge, up to 1 m tall, and usually occurring in large colonies
- Inflorescences distinctive, consisting of several open spikelet clusters widely spaced on the fertile stem; **branches radiating at right angles from the axis**

Flowering Time: September to October

Light Requirement: Shade

Wetland Indicator Status:

OBL – almost always in wetlands

Habitat:

Interior occurrences are in forested seeps; Coastal Zone occurrences are on edges of hammocks and spoil banks in cypress-tupelo swamps.

Threats:

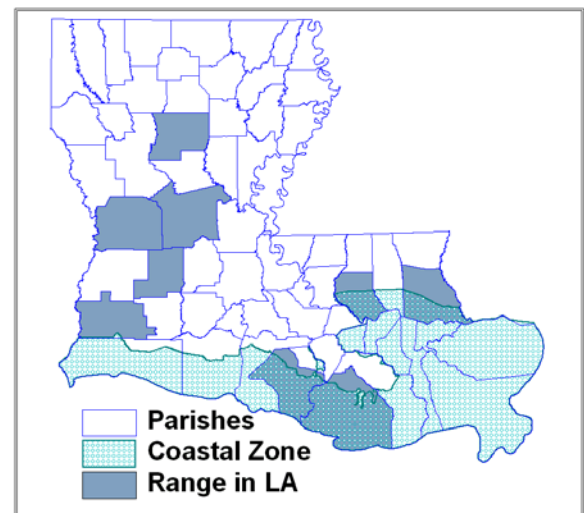
- Subsidence and conversion of forested wetland to open wetland or water
- Sedimentation of seepage wetlands

Beneficial Management Practices:

- In general, protect remaining coastal forested wetlands and restore hydrological connectivity and sediment supply to abate subsidence
- Avoid impacting soil of forested seeps and follow Best Management Practices with respect to water quality and erosion prevention when harvesting timber near forested seeps
- Thinning of overstocked stands up slope from seepage wetlands

LA River Basins:

Calcasieu, Mermentau, Sabine, Terrebonne, Ouachita, Pontchartrain, Vermilion-Teche



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References:

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Godfrey, R. K. and J. W. Wooten. 1981. Aquatic and wetland plants of the southeastern United States: monocotyledons. University of Georgia Press, Athens, GA. 712 pp.

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